

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

In the Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A dental floss device comprising:

a handle; and

a dental floss holder;

said handle having a gripping portion and a head portion; said head portion having opposite engaging surfaces;

said dental floss holder having a base portion and a pair of spaced-apart jaws extending from the base portion to accommodate a length of dental floss therebetween, the spaced-apart jaws having a surface, wherein the surface of at least one of the spaced-apart jaws is provided with at least one cavity for [adding]containing a substance [substances], wherein said cavity comprises a mechanism for retaining the substance within said cavity when the substance is placed within said cavity, the mechanism selected from the group consisting of protrusions extending into said cavity or above said cavity, through holes extending from an underside of said cavity through the spaced-apart jaws, or combinations thereof, the base portion having a mating portion for releasable engagement to said handle.

Claim 2. (Original) A dental floss device of claim 1, wherein the base portion defines a tongue having lateral engaging surfaces, each engaging surface having at least one detent and at least one recess, the detent and recess being laterally spaced apart and aligned with a complementary detent and recess on the opposite engaging surfaces of the head portion of the handle.

Claim 3. (Original) A dental floss device of claim 1, wherein said handle is integrally connected to the base of the dental floss holder and extends therefrom.

Claim 4. (Original) A dental floss device of claim 1, wherein said handle comprises a head portion and an elongated portion;

the head portion having a releasable engagement means between the handle and the floss holder for retaining the dental floss holder securely in position on the head portion of the handle during movement of the dental floss device in use;

the head portion further having a portion for receiving said dental floss holder, said head portion having a transversely extending groove defined by a floor, lateral receiving walls, and terminal snap fit recessions, each of said receiving walls having at least one detent and at least one recess, the detent and recess being laterally spaced apart and aligned with a complementary detent and recess on the other receiving wall;

wherein, on assembly, the tongue of the dental floss holder engages the transversely extending groove and the lateral engaging surfaces contact the lateral receiving walls to define the releasable engagement means, and the snap fit projections of the spaced-apart jaws engage the terminal snap fit recessions of the head portion to constitute snap fitting means.

Claim 5. (Original) A dental floss device of claim 1, wherein said handle is made of a polypropylene material.

Claim 6. (Original) A dental floss device of claim 1, wherein said dental floss holder is made of a polypropylene material.

Claim 7. (Original) A dental floss device of claim 1, wherein said handle is made of a co-polyester material.

Claim 8. (Currently Amended) A dental floss device comprising:

a base portion; and

a pair of spaced-apart arms extending from the base portion to accommodate a length of dental floss therebetween,

each of said pair of spaced-apart arms having a surface, the surface of at least one of said arms comprising a cavity capable of containing a flavored substance, an active or a combination of a flavored substance and an active when placed within said cavity,

wherein said cavity comprises a mechanism for retaining the substance within said cavity when the flavored substance, active, or combination of the flavored substance and active is placed within said cavity, the mechanism selected from the group

consisting of protrusions extending into said cavity or above said cavity, through holes extending from an underside of said cavity through the spaced-apart arm, or combinations thereof.

Claim 9. (Cancelled)

Claim 10. (Original) The dental floss device of claim 8, wherein said cavity contains a flavored substance.

Claim 11. (Original) The dental floss device of claim 8, wherein said cavity contains an active.

Claim 12. (Original) The dental floss device of claim 10, wherein said flavored substance is water soluble.

Claim 13. (Original) The dental floss device of claim 10, wherein said flavored substance is water insoluble.

Claim 14. (Original) The dental floss device of claim 11, wherein said actives are saliva soluble.

Claim 15. (Original) The dental floss device of claim 11, wherein said actives are insoluble.

Claim 16. (Cancelled)

Claim 17. (Original) The dental floss device of claim 11, wherein said active is a chemotherapeutic agent.

Claim 18. (Original) The dental floss device of claim 8, wherein said length of dental floss is a multi-filament yarn.

Claim 19. (Original) The dental floss device of claim 8, wherein said length of dental floss is a psuedo-monofilament yarn.

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Claim ~~21~~. (Currently Amended) A dental device comprising:

a handle; and

a dental article;

said handle having a gripping portion and a head portion; the head portion containing one side of a releasable engagement;

said dental article having a pair of spaced-apart arms and a mating portion for releasable engagement with said handle and at least one cavity capable of releasably retaining a flavor substance, an active or a combination of a flavor substance and an active provided in at least one of said spaced-apart arms,

wherein said cavity comprises a mechanism for retaining the substance within said cavity when the flavored substance, active, or combination of the flavored substance and active is placed within said cavity, the mechanism selected from the group consisting of protrusions extending into said cavity or above said cavity, through holes extending from an underside of said cavity through the spaced-apart arm, or combinations thereof.

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Claim ~~22~~. (Currently Amended) A dental device of claim [17] ²⁰~~21~~, [wherein] said head portion having a portion for receiving said dental article, said head portion having a transversely extending groove defined by a floor, lateral receiving walls, and terminal snap fit recessions, each of said receiving walls having at least one detent and at least one recess, the detent and recess being laterally spaced apart and aligned with a complementary detent and recess on the other receiving wall.

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Claim ~~23~~. (Cancelled)

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Claim ~~24~~. (New) The dental device of claim 1 wherein said through hole comprises a tapered section increasing in diameter as said through hole extends from the underside of said cavity through the spaced-apart jaw.

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Claim ~~25~~. (New) The dental device of claim 8 wherein said through hole comprises a tapered section increasing in diameter as said through hole extends from the underside of said cavity through the spaced-apart arm.